



USS LST-770

Builder: American Bridge Company, Ambridge, Pennsylvania

Commissioned: 13 October 1944

Decommissioned: 29 April 1946

Disposition: Sold for "non self-propelled commercial operations" on 6 February 1948 to Madison B. Wright.

Length: 327' 9" oa

Beam: 50'

Draft: 1' 6" bow, 7' 5" stern (unloaded); 8' 2" bow, 14' 1" stern (loaded -- at sea); 3' 1" bow, 9' 6" (loaded -- beaching)

Displacement: 1,625 (light); 4,080 (w/ full load of 2,100 tons)

Propulsion: 2 x General Motors 12-567 diesels, twin shafts/rudders

Range: 24,000 nm @ 9 knots

Top Speed: 11.6 knots

Complement: 111

Troops: 163

Initial Armament: 7 x 40mm (single mount); 6 x 20 mm (single mount); 2 x .50-caliber mgs; 4 x .30-caliber mgs

Commanding Officers:

LT John H. Judge, USCGR: 14 October 1944 - 5 March 1945

LT Hamilton F. Moore, USCGR: 5 March 1945 - 31 December 1945

LT Kenneth R. Vaughn: 31 December 1945 - 29 April 1946

History:

USS *LST-770*

LST Flotilla 29, Group 87, Division 173

The Coast Guard-manned USS *LST-770* was commissioned on 13 October 1944, at Algiers, Louisiana, with Lt. John H. Judge, USCGR, her first commanding officer. The crew consisted of eight officers and 109 enlisted men. She proceeded to Panama City, Florida, on 21 October 1944, where she remained until November 3rd, engaged in shakedown exercises. Returning to New Orleans on the 5th she engaged in logistics, alterations and repairs until the 12th, hoisting aboard the *LCT-1266* and embarking one officer and 12 enlisted men of that vessel. On the 13th she was underway for Gulfport, Mississippi, to take aboard Army vehicles and asphalt for Pearl Harbor, departing on 15 November 1944.

The "770" arrived at Pearl Harbor on 2 January 1945, via the Panama Canal, San Diego, Port Hueneme and San Pedro, California. Unloading her cargo on the 7th she received on the 25th Army personnel (three officers and 92 men) and 17 LVTs of the 715th Amphibious Tractor Battalion and was underway on the 27th for Leyte, Philippine Islands, via Eniwetok and Kassol Roads, arriving 25 February 1945. On 12 March 1945, after logistics and training exercises, she took aboard 16 officers and 326 enlisted men of the 305th Infantry Battalion and on the 19th was underway for Kerama Rhetto as part of Task Unit 51.1.2. She arrived on the 26th and participated in the invasions of Aka Shina and Yakan Jima, landing both battalions and supplying Army units ashore until the 31st. On the 31st she reloaded men and equipment of the two battalions and was underway in retirement action until the 14th when she arrived at Okinawa.

On 16 April 1945, she participated in the invasion of Ie Shina, landing the 305th Infantry Battalion, 77th Division and on the 17th landing the 307th Infantry Battalion, 77th Division. On the 25th, she unloaded the 715th Amphibious Tractor Battalion on Okinawa. From May 1 to 6, she loaded empty shell cases and powder tanks from various combatant units and on the 7th was underway for Ulithi, arriving on the 13th. She remained at Ulithi engaged in logistics and repairs through the 27th and on the 28th of May departed for Leyte, Philippine Islands, arriving on 31 May 1945. Here she loaded the 1906th Engineering Aviation Battalion for Okinawa, departing Leyte on the 7th of June, 1945, and arriving on the 12th. She unloaded on the 15th and was underway for Leyte on the 22nd, arriving on the 27th.

The 770 was transferred to the 7th Fleet for training exercises on July 8th and departed for Cebu the same day, where she was so engaged until the 21st. She departed for Lucena, Luzon, on the 22nd, where she engaged in training exercises until 14 August 1945. On the 15th she proceeded to Subic Bay and on

the 25th from there to Manila. On the 28th she was underway for Batangas, Luzon, Philippine Islands, where on 14 September 1945, she loaded various Army units for transport to Yokohama, Japan.

She was underway for Yokohama on the 12th of September, 1945, and arrived at Yokohama on the 23rd. She returned to Okinawa on the 30th and on October 5th loaded personnel and equipment of the 1344th U. S. Army Engineer Battalion, getting underway from the 8th to 11th on typhoon retirement plan riding out a typhoon east of Okinawa. She returned on October 12th to anchor at Hagushi, Okinawa, until the 16th when she departed for Yokohama arriving on the 20th. She returned to Leyte, Philippine Islands on 2 November 1945, and on the 8th loaded vehicles, equipment and personnel of various U. S. Army engineer units for transport to Yokohama, Japan, arriving there on the 17th.

On 24 November 1945, the 770 left Yokohama for the United States, arriving at New Orleans on 27 January 1946, via Guam, Pearl Harbor, San Diego and the Canal Zone. On 3 April 1946 she reached Lake Charles, Louisiana via Orange, Texas. She was decommissioned at Lake Charles on 29 April 1946.

The *LST-770* was awarded one battle star for her service during World War II.

Photographs:

None available.

Sources:

LST files, Coast Guard Historian's Office

United States Coast Guard. *The Coast Guard At War. V. Transports and Escorts. Vol. 2.* Washington: Public Information Division, Historical Section, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, May 1, 1949, pp. 66-116.

United States Navy. *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships.* Volume VII. Washington: Naval Historical Center, 1981, pp. 574-742.

